



CONTENTS



ON THE COVER:

GRAEME IRWIN WHIPS OUT A PHAT ONE © RAY ARCHER

CONTENTS:

TOM BROWN GETS RAD ON HIS '89 KX © NUNO LARANJEIRA

AN A TO Z LOOK AT THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY From the 2014 MXON IN LATVIA

IT'S BEEN A TOUGH OLD YEAR FOR ALEX SALVINI BUT HE'S CONVINCED HE CAN PUT IT ALL BEHIND HIM

WHY GOOD ENOUGH ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH FOR THE FACTORY HONDA STAR

ED BRADLEY HEADS TO BELGIUM TO CHECK OUT KYB MASTERS TECHNICAL TOUCH AND THE SERVICES THEY OFFER

125CC RIPPERS FROM THREE DIFFERENT DECADES GET Gripped n' ripped by godfrey and the gang

078: VIC EASTWOOD

EACH AND EVERY MX GP WINNER RANKED

THE HEADS & ALL THREADS SUZUKI STAR TELLS IT EXACTLY LIKE IT IS

A CRACKING COLLECTION OF OFF-ROAD NEWS AND GOSSIP PLUS A CLOSE LOOK AT WHAT'S INSTORE AT MOTORCYCLE LIVE

O28: STUFF THE BEAR PRESENTS AN AWESOME ARRAY OF OFF-ROAD BITS N' BOBS Y'ALL!

058: BURNICLE'S BEAT A LOOK AT THE RACERS WHO SNATCHED DEFEAT OUT OF THE JAWS OF VICTORY

HOW-TO FIX A WEEPING SEAL LIKE A BOSS

129 RAGE

THE UK'S ONLY WORTHWHILE READ FOR YOUTH RACERS

134. HOT WHEELS

TIM GAJSERS' MIRACULOUS MX2 MISSILE

OF THE MXON

AN ALPHABETICAL
SWING THROUGH THE HIGHS
AND LOWS OF THE 2014
MOTOCROSS OF NATIONS





SWITCH EIIIIER.

AFTER JUST MISSING OUT ON THE MX3 TITLE FOR TWO YEARS ON THE BOUNCE, ALEX SALVINI CROSSED OVER TO ENDUROS AND WITHIN A COUPLE OF SEASONS HE'D PICKED UP THE E2 WORLD CROWN. HE LOST IT THIS TIME AROUND TO HIS ARCH RIVAL PIERRE 'PELA' RENET BUT THE ITALIAN'S STILL LOOKING ON THE BRIGHT SIDE...

Words by Sean Lawless Photos by Nuno Laranjeira

lex Salvini is in good spirits.

Other riders in his position – he's just lost his E2 Enduro World Championship crown – might not be so happy but our interview with him on the eve of the season-ending French GP is punctuated with frequent laughter.

The 29-year-old Italian went into the year carrying an injury, picked up another before the series had even reached the halfway stage and lost his title with two rounds still to run. Even worse, he lost his title to his nemesis – Pierre 'Pela' Renet – but after a double win at the previous round, his home GP of Italy, he was delighted to have underlined his status as a worthy world champion.

"Sunday night [in Italy] we had the extreme race and it was full of people everywhere," he

grins. "It was one of the best feelings. I lost the world title there but I already knew that. So on one side I was disappointed that I had lost the championship but from the other I was so happy to be back on the top spot, back again fit and healthy and especially in front of my home fans."

Alex is one of a select band of enduro racers who've made the transition from top-flight motocross – think Johnny Aubert, Christophe Nambotin, Antoine Meo and, that man again, Pela Renet – and won a world title. This year was his first defence but after a solid off-season of testing and training it all went tits-up before April's opening round.

"My season has been complicated very much because before the first round in Spain I broke my thumb and basically the bone exploded – it was in three pieces and the ligaments stretched and everything was pretty bad. I decided to get surgery because I tried to ride but it was almost unrideable it was so painful.









THE HARD ENDURO SEASON HEADS SOUTH FOR TWO BOUTS OF FUN IN THE SUN...





ELECTRIC LANGE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY

KTM are trying to show us the future. It is a quiet, low maintenance and impossibly easy way to ride off-road. What's the verdict on the production launch of the Freeride E? We went to the summer slopes of Saalbach in Austria to find out...

Words by Adam Wheeler Photos by Sebas Romero and Marco Campelli

y the middle of the afternoon I can feel the stress in my left arm. Forget motos and countless laps of a track, steering a Freeride E along various downhill mountain bike trails and substituting right-foot-for-left-hand rear braking action is becoming arduous. It is a little bit of a culture shock but generally being on this 'whizzing' technology is tremendous fun. The diminutive motorcycle is like a cross between a narrow two-stroke and a heavy all-purpose bicycle but still with enough zip and speed to get you into trouble.

Saalbach is an apt setting for KTM's fanfare around the Freeride E – a project of electric mobility that is almost 10 years in the making and something that the Austrians are taking very seriously.

"KTM is performing well thanks to a clear business plan. It seems like we are this firework and like a mad rush on fast-forward but there is a big plan behind this and it is paying off now in the market," says PR Manager Thomas Kuttruf. "It is KTM's perspective to come up with solutions to be able to keep this positive position [in the off-road market]. Off-road conditions are getting worse and we need to fight against it and create a demand for many years."

The ski slopes are only recognisable thanks to the lifts and the steepness of the gradients. The many hotels in the ravine base offer exclusivity and plenty of off-piste relaxation. The green and wonderfully picturesque area is full with walkers and cyclists – essentially a renowned winter resort trying to thrive in blue skies and 20 degree temperatures in the middle of September.

Austria – and this location in particular – serves a shrewd purpose. The difficulty in transporting products and technology of this nature means that the Freeride is essentially a Euro-centric motorcycle for the time being, so no global emphasis and the media invited across the four-day launch are largely orientated on press titles and sources from this continent.

Saalbach is also a showcase environment. The agility of the motorcycle can be felt over the rocks of the mountain climbs, the bumps of the green downhills and the many mountain-bike routes. The presence of trekkers and seekers of mountain solace are not disturbed by the gaggles of humming Freerides that file past; the lack of disturbance through reduced noise and emissions one of the strongest calling cards for the Freeride E and e-mobility.



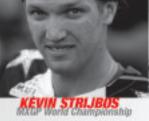




'RIDE IT LIKE YOU STOLE IT' USED TO PERFECTLY SUM UP
GRAEME IRWIN'S STYLE BUT THIS SEASON THE 22-YEAR-OLD
FROM NORTHERN IRELAND HAS TRADED UP AND CALMED
DOWN. WELL, MAYBE JUST A LITTLE BIT...

Words by Sean Lawless Photos by Nuno Laranjeira













PERFORMANCE IS HERE.

